

How do we study SMSC in Science?

The Science curriculum at Tong is packed naturally with SMSC strands which allow us to teach it within the specifications. As a department we believe our job is not just to teach the science but to contribute to the development of a person.

Spiritual Development:

Science and spiritual ideas often cause conflict but it is important to understand why these conflicts arise so we can respect the views of others and move forward. Examples of this in the curriculum include the theory of evolution and contraception. It is also seen more often that science is able to stand alongside the spiritual beliefs of many. This is looked at often from a neutral stand point within science lessons.

Moral Development:

Our understanding of Science has allowed us to develop technology we couldn't have imagined 10 years ago. Now we must decide if all the scientific activities we are able to do, such as the cloning of animals or testing medicine on animals, are morally acceptable. Students will need to develop a good understanding of it to firstly pass exams which comprise of ethical questions but more importantly to become a good rounded scientist.

Social Development:

Science continually changes our society. Life expectancy is getting longer and people are putting solar panels on their rooftops. Society has become dependent on scientific developments which we could not have foreseen 50 years ago. Students need to consider their impact on the world around them.

Cultural Development:

Scientific development comes from all across the world, from people of all backgrounds and cultures. Some of science's most important discoveries have come from the ancient Arabic and Greek societies. It is important to understand how the different cultures around the world can have different impacts on the planet and what impact more economically developed countries have on poorer areas. This will also be vital into the future as we need to monitor the impact of quickly developing cultures on our environment.

Example of SMSC in Science include:

1. Consideration of the moral dilemmas that can result in scientific developments.
2. Showing respect for differing opinions, on creation for example.
3. Co-operation in practical activity.